INSIDER™

DARK HORSE COMICS NO.10 OCTOBER 1992

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34 October books from the world's greatest comic book company

THE MAKING OF A MOVIE

On location with Dr. Giggles

ALIENS VS. PREDATOR 2

Stradley and Warner keep dishing it out!

TEST YOUR C.Q.

(Comics Quotient) and win a one-of-kind comic book for your high score

...AND MORE!

On the cover: Cover painting by Doug Mahnke from Dr. Giggles

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FRONT COVER ART
BY DOUG MAHNKE,
FROM *DR. GIGGLES* #1

BACK COVER ART
BY BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH,
FROM *PREDATOR VS. MAGNUS ROBOT FIGHTER* #1

INSIDE FRONT COVER ART
BY DON MARTIN,
FROM *DON MARTIN'S DROLL BOOK*

INSIDE BACK COVER ART
BY SCOTT MUSGROVE,
FROM *FAT DOG MENDOZA*

EDITOR: KRIS YOUNG
PROOFREADER: SUZANNE TAYLOR
DESIGN & PRODUCTION: EGON SELBY

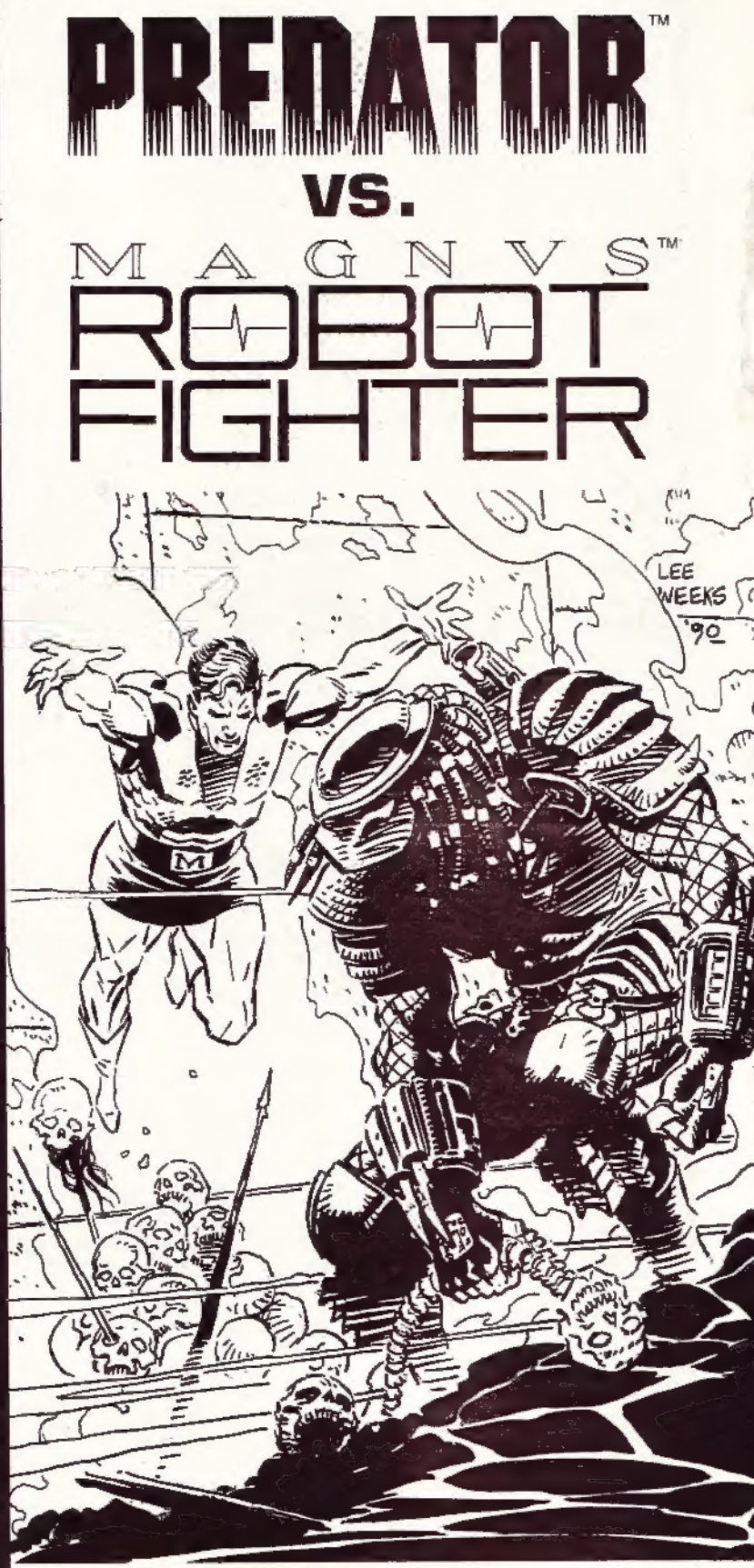
PREDATOR VS. MAGNUS ROBOT FIGHTER #1 (OF 2)

A Predator stalks North Am 4001, searching for his most prized trophy — the X-O Manowar helmet. The stolen trophy has fallen into the hands of a certain Goph, a man called Magnus, whose steel-mashing strength has earned him the title Robot Fighter — thus the stage is set for the battle of the 41st century!

The first Dark Horse/Valiant crossover is written by **Jim Shooter**, with art by **Lee Weeks**, colors by **Janet Jackson**, and cover art by **Barry Windsor-Smith**.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada. 32 full-color pages, saddle-stitched deluxe format, painted cover.

Shipping October 20, 1992.



THE TERMINATOR: ENDGAME #2 (OF 3)

The half-Terminator Dudley and Colonel Mary Randall are reunited finally, as they resume their quest to save Sarah Connor and ensure the birth of her son, John. But Dudley is having problems controlling his Terminator half — and Mary finds out the hard way! The penultimate chapter in Dark Horse's final *Terminator* series moves inexorably toward a climactic encounter with the new Terminator on the block. **James Robinson** teams with pencil artist **Jackson Guice** (*Nick Fury: Agent of SHIELD*) and inker **John Beatty**. British artist **John Higgins** (*The Thing from Another World*) supplies the cover painting.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Monthly. Shipping October 6, 1992.

THE TERMINATOR: ENDGAME #3 (OF 3)

The fight is on! Everything is coming to a head at Odessa Hospital on the day of John Connor's birth. Mary, Sloane, Catfish, and the Terminator battle over the future of mankind! Will Mary and Sloane be successful in changing history? Written by **James Robinson**, Dark Horse's final *Terminator* series comes to a rip-roaring conclusion. **Jackson Guice** handles the pencilling chores, complemented perfectly by **John Beatty**'s inks. **John Higgins** once again provides a startling cover painting.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Shipping October 27, 1992.

ROBOCOP: PRIME SUSPECT #1 (OF 4)

Detroit's used to the wild antics of Insane Izzy, eccentric electronics entrepreneur extraordinaire and RoboCop basher. Now Izzy's been shot... with RoboCop's gun. And RoboCop's the only one who can fire it. How do you put a cyborg cop on suspension? And how can he clear his name when he can't trust his own recorded memories?

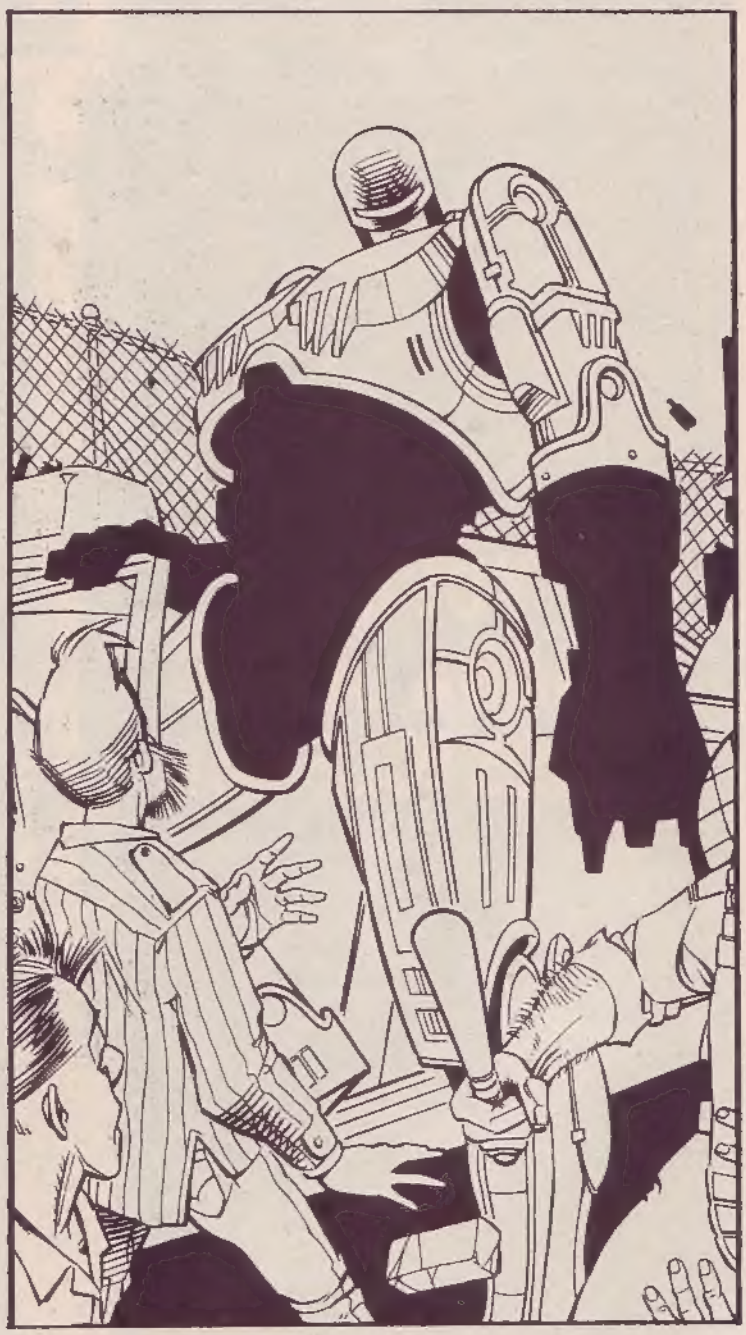
Dark Horse's newest licensed series is by **John Arcudi** (*The Mask Returns*), hot new artist **John Paul Leon** (*RoboCop in DHC*), and **Jeff Albrecht** (*RoboCop* in *DHC*), with colors by **Matt Webb** (*John Byrne's Next Men*) and painted covers by **Nelson** (*RoboCop 3* movie adaptation)! Don't miss the companion *RoboCop* tale in *Dark Horse Comics* #1-3.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Monthly. Shipping October 6, 1992.

ROBOCOP™

PRIME SUSPECT



JAMES BOND 007: SERPENT'S TOOTH #3 (OF 3)

Would you destroy the world to make a new, perfect one? Indigo plays God and Bond is the serpent in Indigo's New Eden. *Serpent's Tooth* delivers all the Bond action, all the Bond thrills, and all the Bond *savoir-faire*. There's no way anyone should miss the exciting conclusion to this incredible series. Written by **Doug Moench** (*Batman/Dracula: Red Rain*) with art by **Paul Gulacy** (*The Terminator: Secondary Objectives*) and color by **Steve Oliff** (*John Byrne's 2112*). Painted cover by Gulacy.

$4.95 U.S., $5.95 Canada.
48 color pages, squarebound, painted cover.

Shipping October 13, 1992.

THE YOUNG INDIANA JONES CHRONICLES #9

It's Indy's first encounter with love. Even though he's gotten advice from the best experts Vienna has to offer on that subject — Freud, Jung, and Adler — he's not prepared for the excitement. He soon finds himself hanging from carriages, scaling walls, risking guard dogs, and avoiding an overprotective governess to be near his beloved Sophie. But Sophie's not only the object of Indy's affections; she's also the daughter of Archduke Ferdinand, the ruler of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

An issue of amazing beauty, brought to you by master storyteller **Dan Barry** (who provides both script and pencils) and inker **Andy Mushynsky**, complemented with colors by **Rachelle Menashe**. Cover art by Barry. Adapted from the ABC-TV teleplay.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping October 13, 1992.

DR. GIGGLES #1 and #2 (OF 2)

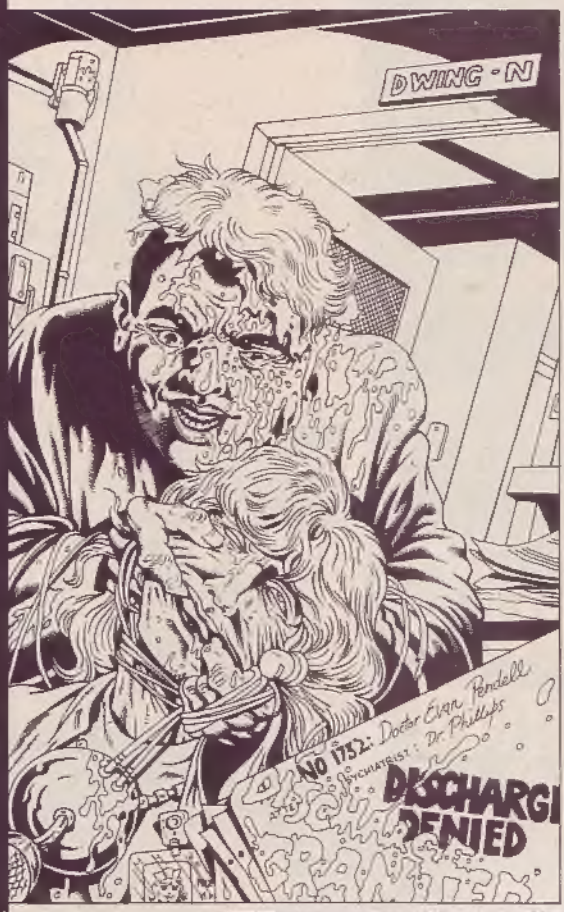
The sleepy little town of Moorehigh is about to wake up to its worst nightmare: Evan Rendell, a.k.a. Dr. Giggles, is coming home to settle some old scores. This two-issue adaptation of the new horror film will dovetail with the release of the movie — just in time for Halloween!

Adapted from writer/director **Manny Coto**'s script by **Steven Grant** and artists **Kent Burles** and **Alan J. Burrows**. Covers by **Doug Mahnke** (*The Mask*).

Readers' note: See page 25 for an insider's look at the making of the *Dr. Giggles* movie!

Each issue **$2.50 U.S.**, **$3.00 Canada**.
Each issue 32 color pages, painted covers.

Issue #1 shipping October 6, 1992.
Issue #2 shipping October 27, 1992.



HERBIE #2

This issue reprints two classic *Herbie* stories in color for the first time: "Big Fat Mess at the Okay Corral!," and "George Washington's Teeth!" It's history, as only Herbie can make it! Stories written by **Shane O' Shea**, with illustrations by **Ogden Whitney**.

All this, plus an all-new story, "Herbie, the Starving Artist," written and illustrated by **Jorge Pacheco**. Color cover by Pacheco.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

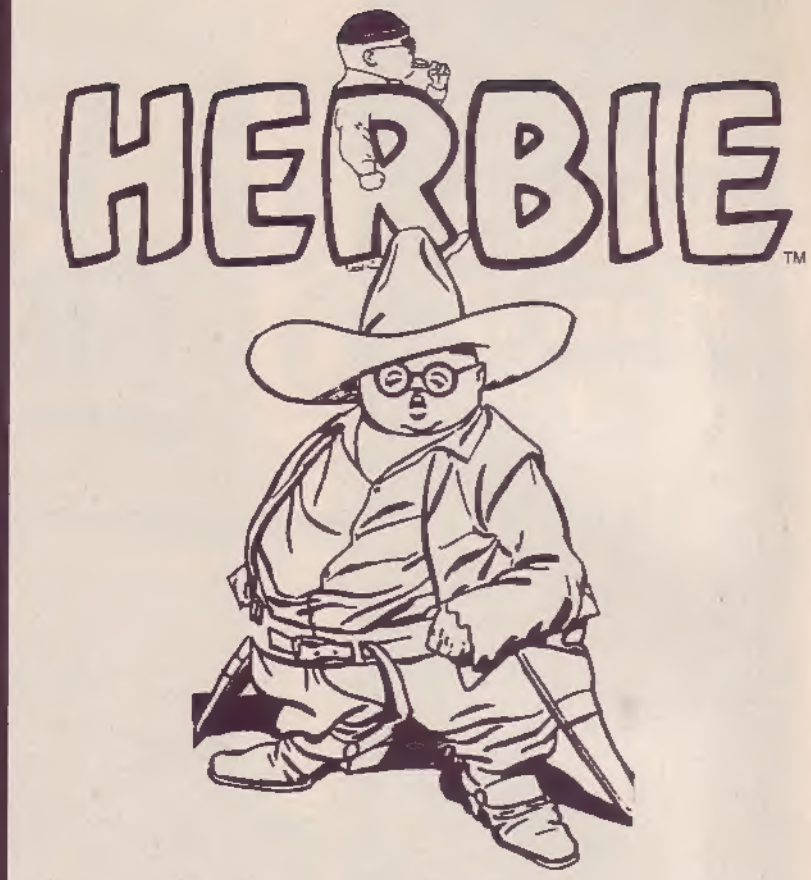
Monthly. Shipping October 20, 1992.

THE MASK RETURNS #2 (OF 4)

No one is safe from The Mask's violent crime spree! Can anyone stop him? Lionel sets out to try, but it's Kathy who has a plan that might succeed! Thrills and chills with comics' favorite Big-Head! Written by **John Arcudi** and illustrated by **Doug Mahnke**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Monthly. Shipping October 6, 1992.



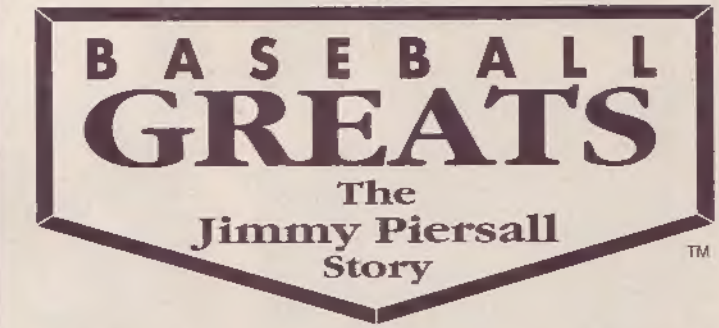
BASEBALL GREATS #1: THE JIMMY PIERSALL STORY

Dark Horse is proud to present the first in a new series of comics chronicling the life stories of some of the greatest stars of the sports world. The first issue profiles baseball's Jimmy Piersall, not only one of the greatest outfielders of all time, but one of the sport's greatest characters, as well! **Each issue of this series will include unique sports trading cards produced especially by Dark Horse Comics for this series**; the first issue will include a set of eight cards showcasing Jimmy Piersall's baseball career, with randomly selected cards autographed by Piersall himself.

Jimmy Piersall, acting as Dark Horse's director of sports marketing, will be actively involved in the on-going development of this series. With this series, Dark Horse has plans to bring high-quality, **authorized**, full-color comic biographies of sports greats to brand new audiences. For the first issue, we have a real all-star lineup of creative talent: leading off, a script by **John Arcudi**; **Norm Dwyer** pencils over layouts by **Paul Guinan**, and is joined by inker **Brian Garvey**; and, batting clean-up, **Dave Dorman** tops it all off by supplying a fully-painted cover.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Shipping October 6, 1992.



IN SEPTEMBER OF 1950, A VERY YOUNG AND VERY NERVOUS JAMES PIERSALL STEPPED UP TO THE PLATE FOR HIS FIRST TIME IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES.
JIMMY COULDN'T KNOW IT, BUT THIS WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF A LONG, SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN BIG LEAGUE BALL. A CAREER THAT WOULD EARN HIM RESPECT AND RECOGNITION AS AN OUTSTANDING FIELDER AND A GREAT HITTER, ALONG WITH A REPUTATION AS THE MOST COLORFUL PLAYER IN BASEBALL.
ALL THAT MATTERED AT THAT MOMENT, HOWEVER, WAS THAT PIERSALL'S LIFELONG AMBITION OF PLAYING WITH THE BOSTON RED SOX HAD BEEN REALIZED.

THE BLUE WITCH OF OZ

A BRAND NEW OZ NOVEL BY ERIC SHANOWER!

When Dorothy wonders whatever happened to Abatha, the Good Witch of the East, Glinda discovers that Abatha has been frozen in time by a mysterious spell in the Great Gray Gillikin Swamp. Dorothy and the Scarecrow, along with the ruby-hearted Glass Cat, brave the most dangerous part of Oz to find Abatha and break the spell that binds her!

Shanower's series of *Oz* graphic novels has often been compared to the work of *Oz* creator L. Frank Baum, and with good reason! Find out why everyone from Harlan Ellison to Don Thompson has been swept away by these books. *The Blue Witch of Oz* is written, lettered, and illustrated by **Eric Shanower** with a painted cover by Shanower.

$9.95 U.S., $11.95 Canada.
48 painted pages, painted cover.

Shipping October 20, 1992.

TOO BAD YOU'RE NOT LIKE ME. I DON'T NEED TO EAT BECAUSE I'M STUFFED WITH STRAW.
EXCEPT FOR MY HEAD, OF COURSE--IT'S FILLED WITH BRAINS GIVEN TO ME BY THE WIZARD OF OZ!

DON'T MISS THESE OTHER OZ GRAPHIC NOVELS!

Readers' note: These four *Oz* graphic novels were originally published by First Publishing and are now being sold into the direct-sales market by Dark Horse Comics.

THE ENCHANTED APPLES OF OZ

This first volume in Shanower's *Oz* series is available again! Follow the new adventures of Dorothy, the Scarecrow, and Ozma as they race to save Oz from the Wicked Witch of the South. Introduction by Harlan Ellison.

$7.95 U.S., $10.95 Canada.

THE SECRET ISLAND OF OZ

Join Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Cowardly Lion and Eureka the talking cat as they discover a secret island floating inside a mysterious mountain. Together with Knotboy and the haughty Princess Tinkerbelle-Ha, they encounter strange creatures that could only exist in the wondrous world of Oz.

$8.95 U.S., $10.95 Canada.

THE ICE KING OF OZ

Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Woodman, and their new companion Flicker venture far from the Emerald City to free Ozma from the sorcerous Ice King — but the Ozma they find isn't the Ozma they've come to know and love.

$8.95 U.S., $10.95 Canada.

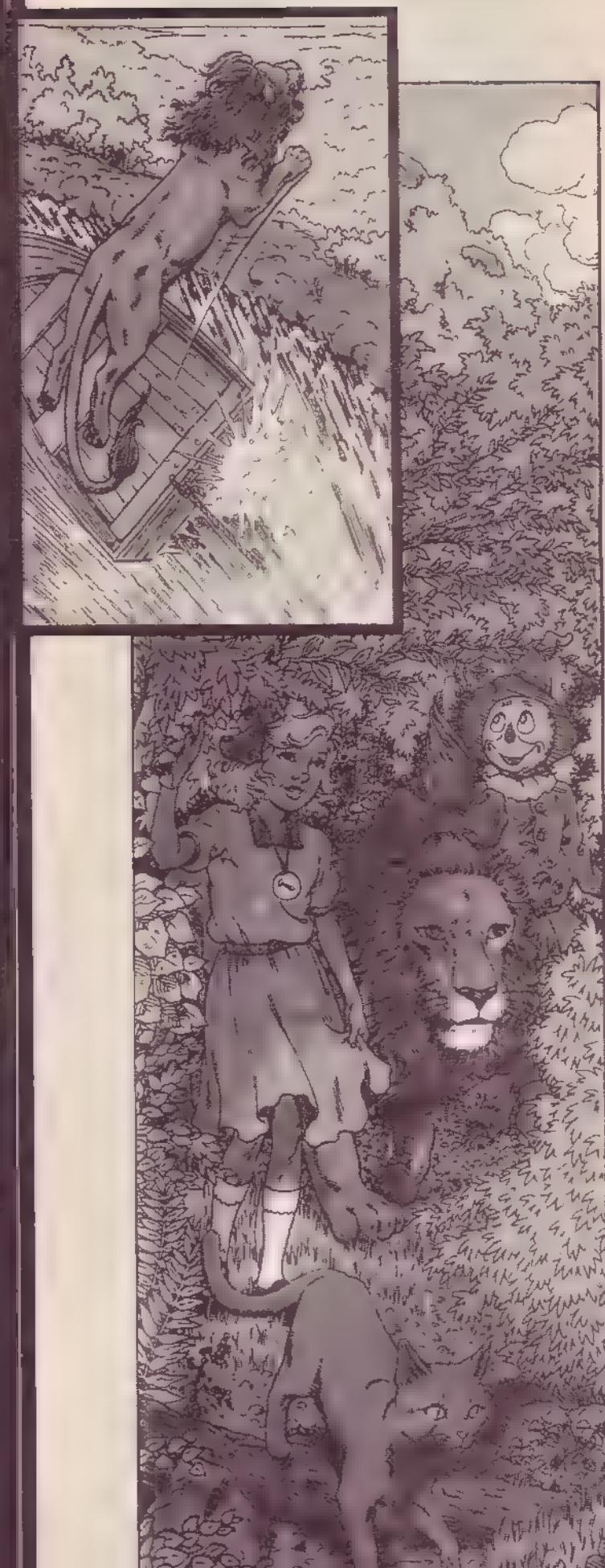
THE FORGOTTEN FOREST OF OZ

Dragons and wood-nymphs and trolls, oh my! Dorothy, Toto, and the Scarecrow battle to save the magical Forgotten Forest in the fourth volume of Eric Shanower's series of all-new Oz graphic novels.

$8.95 U.S., $10.95 Canada.

Each book is 48 color pages, painted color cover.

Available in October 1992.



THE AMERICAN: LOST IN AMERICA #4 (OF 4)

The American and his friends from the ape mask cult go to war with the town of Lincoln, Oregon, while reporter Dennis Hough and The American's sometime girlfriend Candice Price try to keep the peace in the action-packed conclusion to "Lost in America."

Written by creator **Mark Verheiden** (*Predator: Cold War*), pencilled by **Chris Marrinan** (*Spider-Man*), and inked by **Brian Garvey** (*Aliens: Newt's Tale*). Cover by **Jim Lee** (*X-Men*).

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 color pages, color cover

[illegible] October [illegible] 99

JOHN BYRNE'S NEXT MEN #8

The Next Men are still a secret to the world, but that doesn't stop Control from sending them to Russia to help the head of Russia's Omega Project devise a solution to the danger posed by the Next Men's Russian counterparts. What will happen when the Next Men face their own doubles? As Jaci, Nathan, Jazz, and Bethany head into action, Danny, who was left behind, makes a startling discovery of his own.

Meanwhile, the mystery deepens as part of the chilling "M.I." Who is the mystery man? What does the designation "MIV" mean? How is Senator Hilltop involved?

Everything but colors by **John Byrne**; colors by **Matt Webb**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 color pages, color cover

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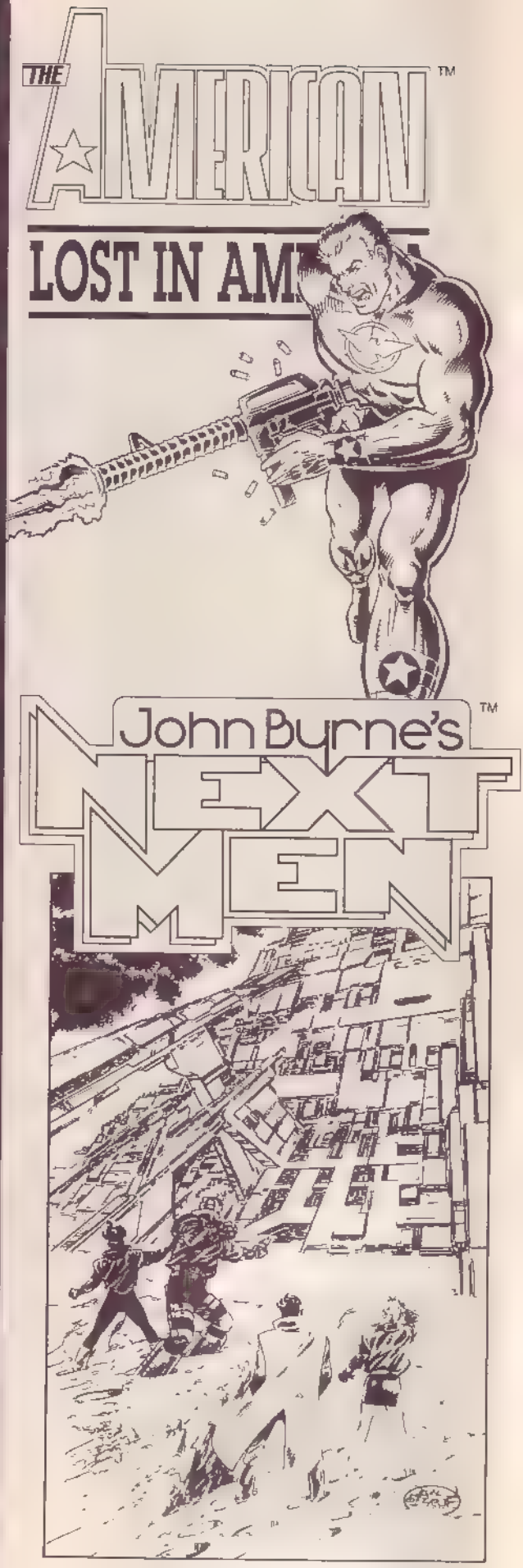


NEXUS THE LIBERATOR #3 (OF 4)

The politicians of Uyl are fighting for control of the planet while everyone else fights for their lives! Nexus' execution of the Holy Gigo, despot ruler of Uyl, has sparked civil war, political assassinations, and mob violence. Only one woman has a chance at bringing peace to her planet in the wake of Gigo's death — the trouble is, Gigo just won't stay dead! This tale of Nexus' early years is brought to you by writer **Stefan Petrucha** (*Squanto*), penciller **John Calimée** (*Alpha Flight*), and original *Nexus* inker **John Nyberg**. Eerie cover painting by **Whilce Portacio** (*X-Factor*) and **Les Dorscheid** (*Alien Hive*).

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover

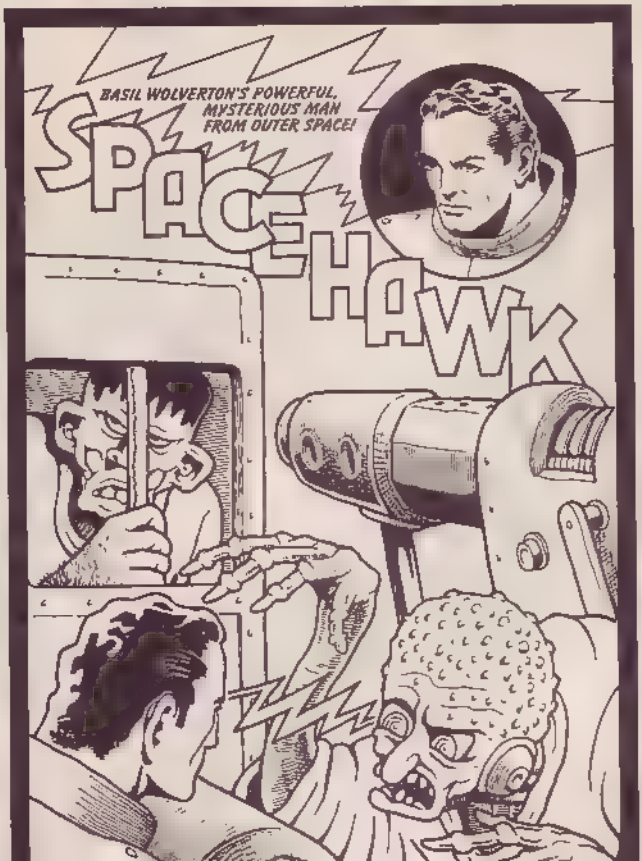
Shipping October 1992

SPACEHAWK #4

Basil Wolverton's enigmatic, mysterious man from outer space is back! Can even Spacehawk survive the machinations of Queen Haba of Neptune? Join the scourge of the spaceways as he fights the forces of evil! Story, interior art, and cover all by **Basil Wolverton**. Interior color mopouts by **Bill Spicer**.

$2.25 U.S., $2.75 Canada.
32 B&W pages, color cover

Shipping October 1992



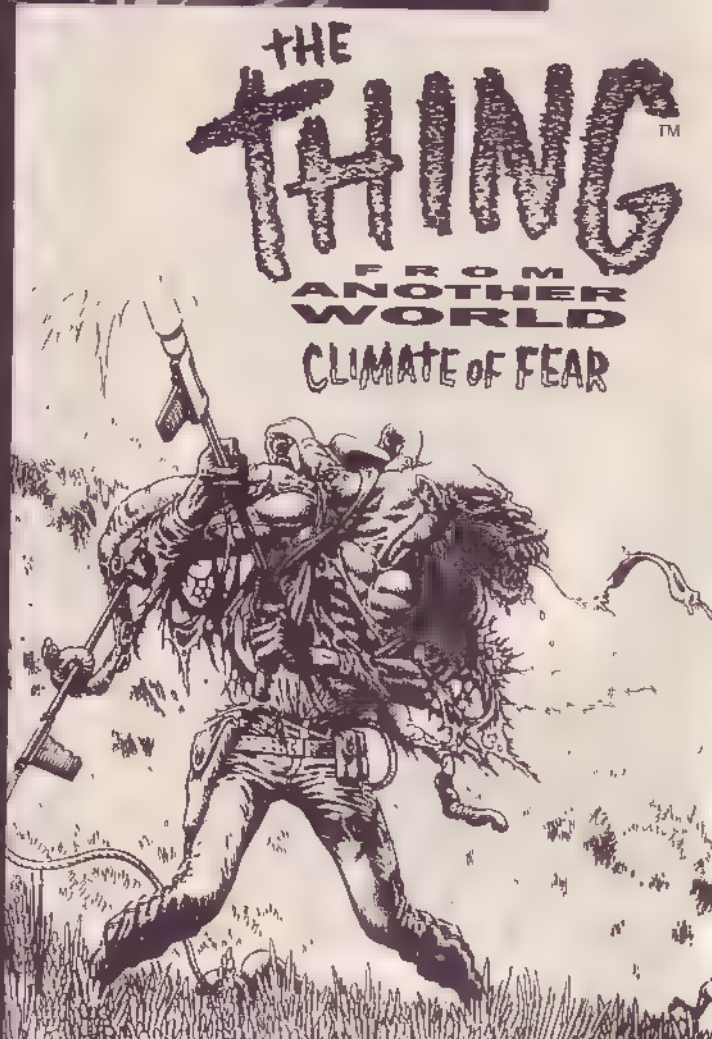
PRIMAL #1 (OF 4)

In *Primal*, from the Cradle to the Grave, we left T. J. Cyrus in the loving caress of Myda the Riven. This four-issue series takes us back to the night back to the Riven as they enter our world to feed on our fear. One of the Riven is let loose in an experiment gone awry, loose in old Massachusetts and events that seem to recall old Salem, where the Riven fed well. Story by **Clive Barker**, **D. G. Chichester**, and **Erik Saltzgaber**. Painted art by **Lionel Talaro** (*Revelations*) and special photo cover by **J. K. Potter**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 painted color pages • saddle-stitched • special photo art cover

Bimonthly • Shipping October 1 • 99¢

THE THING FROM ANOTHER WORLD: CLIMATE OF FEAR #4 (OF 4)



Writer **John Arcudi** (*Aliens: Genocide*), penciller **Jim Somerville** (*Aliens: Newt's Tale*), and inker **Robert Jones** bring down the house in the conclusion to "Climate of Fear." MacReady discovers that the Thing has been busy building a ship . . . and it's up to him to destroy the alien before it can take off to a more populated area. But how much good is a can of gas and a torch against a monster the size of a locomotive? Cover painting by **John Higgins**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 color pages • painted cover

Shipping October 1 • 99¢

THE NEW FRONTIER #1 (OF 3)

The 60s were filled with memorable events: the H-Bombing of Pyongyang, the assassination of Bert Parks, and Fidel Castro's World Series no-hitter. There was no event, however, that etched itself into the public memory as did the death of the most glamorous and popular movie star in history, Rubi Fields. Now, 30 years later, her death plays a role in a baffling murder... or does it? Master storytellers **Michael Cherkas** (*Silent Invasion*) and **John Sablijic** reveal the answers in this tale of an altered reality. *The New Frontier* is expanded from the original serial that ran in *Heavy Metal*.

$2.75 U.S., $3.50 Canada.
32 B&W pages, color cover

Month Shipped: October 1999

SIGNAL TO NOISE

Neil Gaiman (*Sandman, Black Orchid, Violent Cases*) and **Dave McKean** (*Cages, Black Orchid, Violent Cases*), two of the finest talents working in comics today, come together again on a work of phenomenal power. Originally serialized in *The Face*, *Signal to Noise* is the story of a film director dying of cancer. His life's crowning achievement, his greatest film, would have told the story of a European village as the last hour of 999 A.D. approached the midnight that the villagers were convinced would bring with it Armageddon. Now that story will never be told. But he's still working it out in his head, making a film that no one will ever see. No one but us.

Suggested for mature readers

$11.95 U.S., $14.95 Canada
80 painted color pages, 8 1/2" x 11"
squarebound, painted cover

Shipping October 27, 1999

THE NEW
FRONTIER
JOHN SABLIJIC AND MICHAEL CHERKAS
FLY WITH ME ON AIR
ERICA
" FROM AEROCARS TO ATOMIC HAIR DRYERS, SHE WAS VOTED MOST POPULAR STAR SIX YEARS IN A ROW...

GRENDEL: WAR CHILD #3 (OF 10)

The chase is on for young Jupiter Assante, heir to the throne of the Grendel Khan, and his abductor, the mysterious masked figure — who, we now learn, may even have been sent by the Khan himself! This issue finds the pair sloshing through the Louisiana swamps, only to land on the doorstep of an old witch. It would seem the ancient crone is more foe than friend, however, when news of Jupiter's death comes back to his stepmother, Laurel Kennedy. "Devil in the Bayou" is the latest chapter in this fast-paced tale of Grendel, written and inked by **Matt Wagner**, pencilled by **Pat McEown**, and col-painted by **Bernie Mireault**. Cover painting by **Simon Bisley**.

Suggested for mature readers. This issue contains graphic violence and some nudity.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Month Shipping October 21 1992

DEADFACE: EARTH, WATER, AIR, AND FIRE #4 (OF 4)

Bacchus, Theseus, and the gang manage a jail break in Sicily, with the considerable help of the ever-popular Eyeball Kid. In addition, the true history of the mystical Eyes of Future, Past and Fate is revealed by Simpson, before he vanishes without a trace! This is the last issue of a four-issue series featuring writer/artist **Eddie Campbell**'s self-styled interpretation of Greek myth. Cover painting by Campbell.

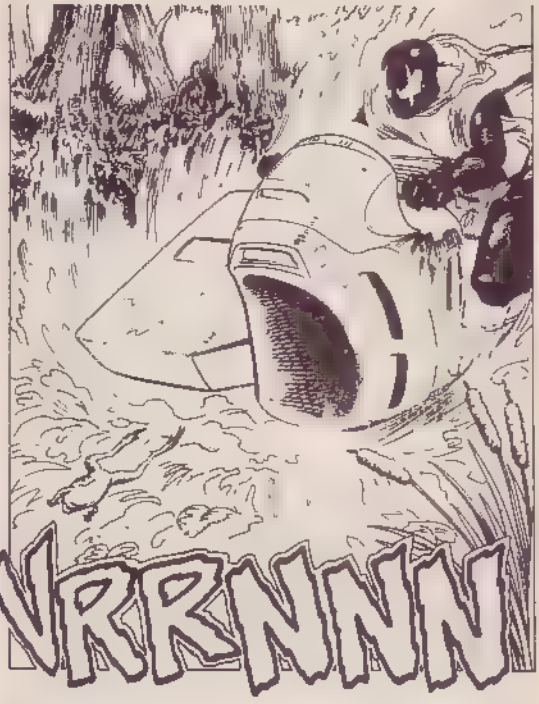
Suggested for mature readers. This issue contains violent scenes and sophisticated writing.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 B&W pages, painted cover.

Shipping October 21 1992

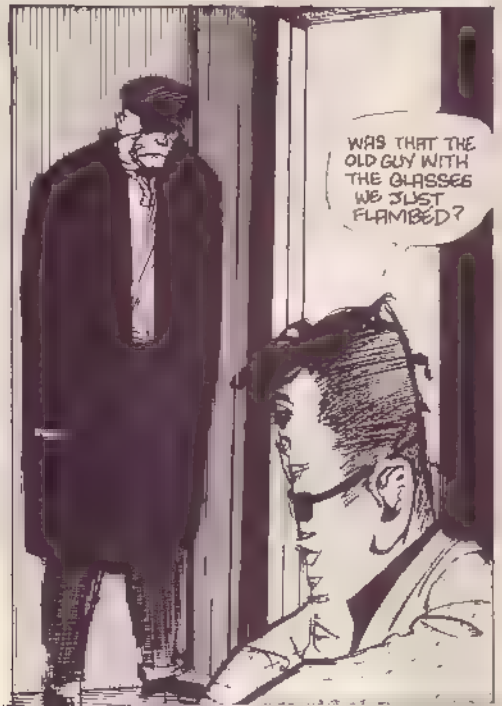
GRENDEL™

war child



Deadface™

EARTH • WATER AIR • FIRE



STAR WARS: DARK EMPIRE #6 (OF 6)

Left behind on Byss, Luke travels with the newly powerful Emperor Palpatine to capture his sister Leia. Meanwhile, the Jedi Holocron delivers a thousand-year-old prophecy to Leia, which tells of her battle against the young Emperor.

It's the conclusion to one of the most exciting events of 1992! Story by **Tom Veitch** and painted art by **Cam Kennedy**, with painted cover by **Dave Dorman**.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada.
32 pages, saddle-stitched, [illegible] painted cover.

Shipping October [illegible]

CLASSIC STAR WARS #3

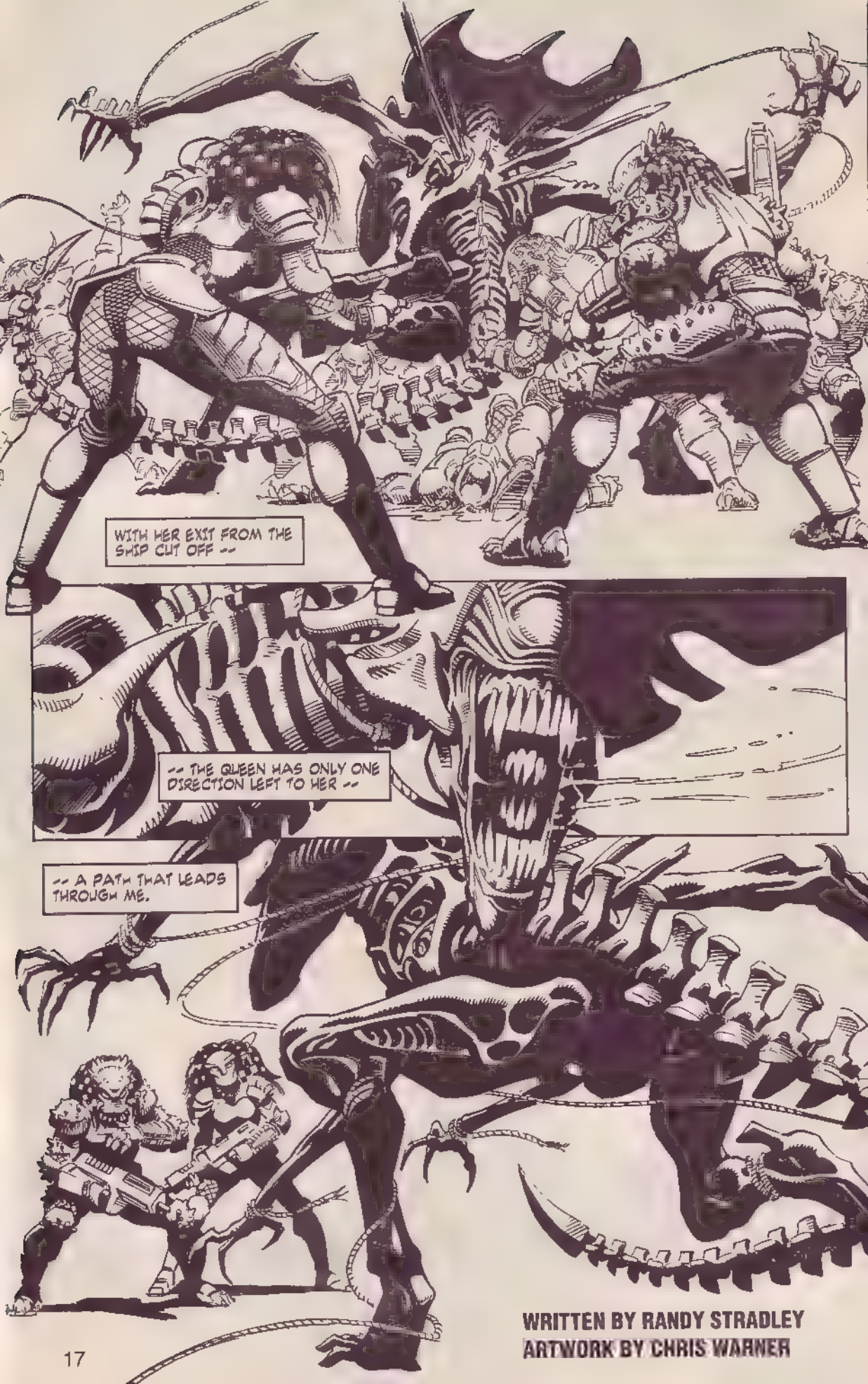
Dark Horse continues reprinting of the *Star Wars* newspaper strips by comic-book masters Archie Goodwin and Al Williamson, completely in color for the first time ever! We've reformatted these strips into an affordable monthly comic book, and Williamson himself is revising many panels to ensure that his artwork fits the new format.

Classic Star Wars is set during the period between the first and second *Star Wars* films. In this issue, Luke volunteers for an espionage mission aboard Darth Vader's new battleship, but can he trust the imperial Admiral he meets there, who claims to be helping the Rebels? Written by **Archie Goodwin**, illustrated by **Al Williamson**, and colored by **Steve Buccellato** (*The Terminator*, *The Spirit*, *Mythin*). Plus, [illegible] cover by Williamson!

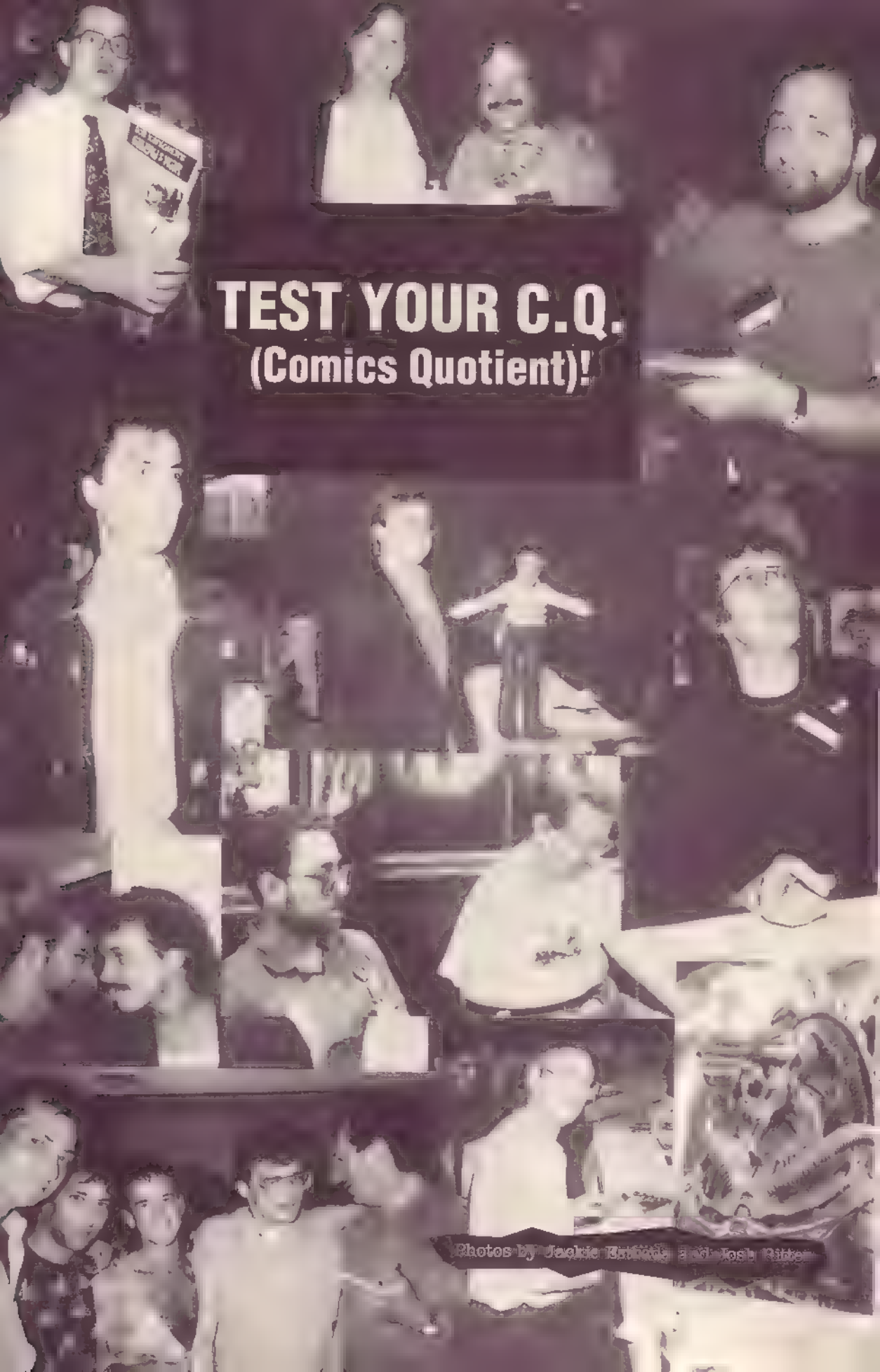
$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

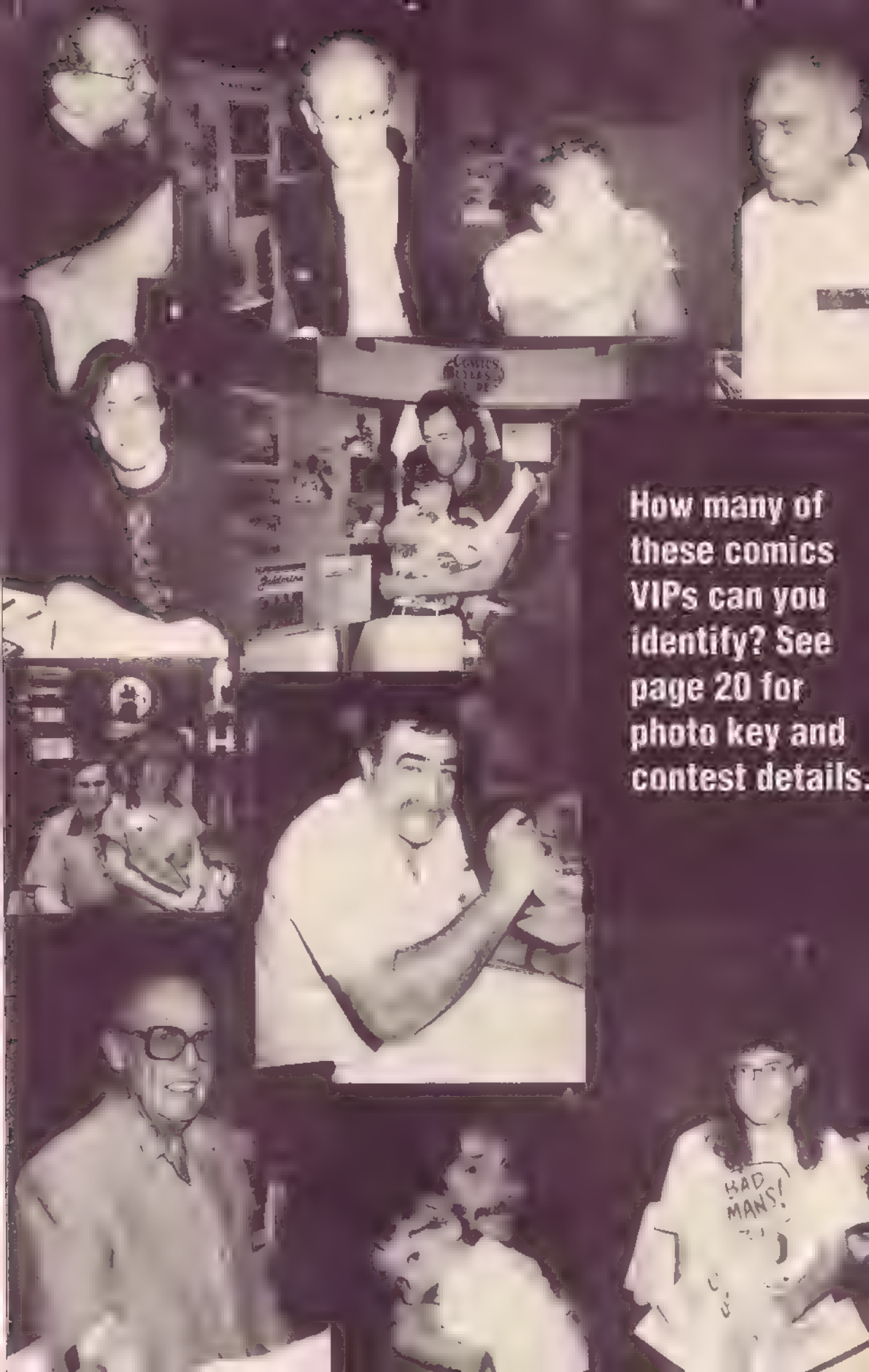
[illegible]

THE QUEEN HAS BROKEN FREE INSIDE OUR SHIP --
-- AND SIGNALED HER BROOD TO ATTACK --
-- A DECISION INTENDED TO ALLOW HER ESCAPE AT THE COST OF THE LIVES OF HER OWN CHILDREN.
TOPKNOT MAKES A SIMILAR CHOICE.

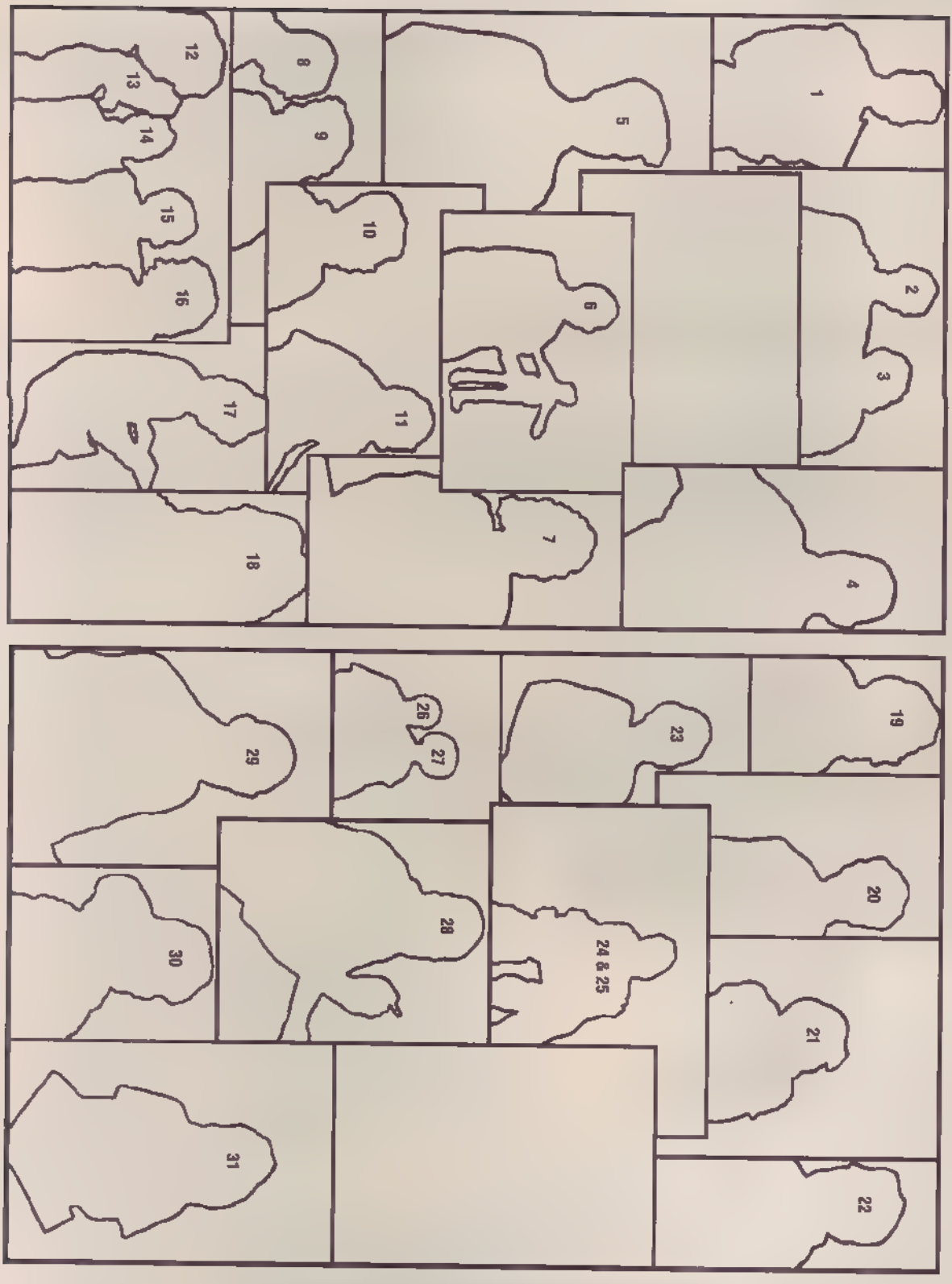


WRITTEN BY RANDY STRADLEY
ARTWORK BY CHRIS WARNER


TEST YOUR C.Q.
(Comics Quotient)!
Photos by Jackie Estrada and Josh Ritter



How many of these comics VIPs can you identify? See page 20 for photo key and contest details.



TEST YOUR C.Q. (COMICS QUOTIENT)!

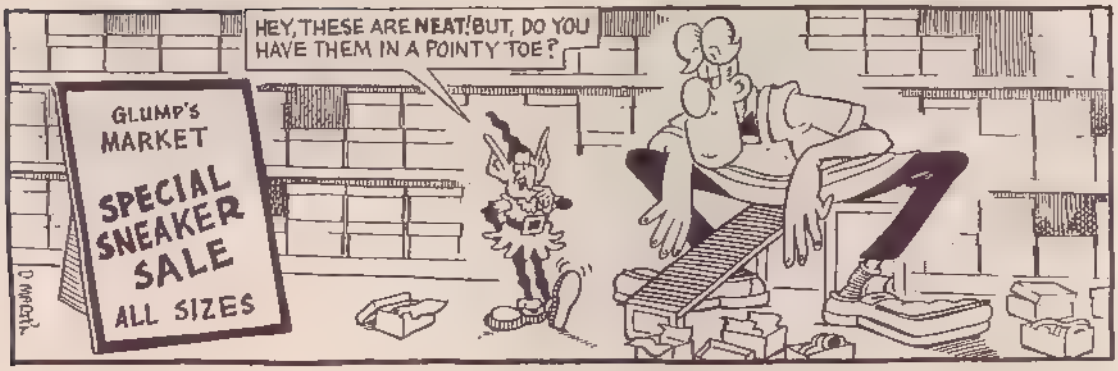
Here's your chance to show your comics savvy. The preceding photo montage (pages 18-19) features some of the most famous faces in comicdom. The same photo appeared in *San Diego Comic-Con Comics* #1, a special comic book published by Dark Horse Comics exclusively for the San Diego Comic-Con. Correctly identify these comics greats, from #1 through #31, and you'll be entered into a drawing for a copy of *San Diego Comic-Con Comics* #1, signed by many of the writers and artists who attended the Con! Use this numbered photo key to make a corresponding list, and send that completed list, along with your name, address, and phone number to: INSIDER/C.Q. TEST, c/o Dark Horse Comics, 10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222. All entries must be postmarked by October 1, 1992 to qualify. Hint: one or more of these famous faces may appear more than once. Have fun, and good luck!

SNEAK PREVIEW

DON MARTIN'S droll™ BOOK

Don Martin, *the* seminal *MAD* artist and a master of the profoundly absurd cartoon, brings us *Droll*. Packed with outrageous gags and unique humor, this is Don's hand-picked collection of his favorite material – including his syndicated newspaper strip *The Nutheads*, and material never before published in the U.S.! Available in paperback and hardcover editions.

Don Martin's Droll Book ships November 24, 1992.

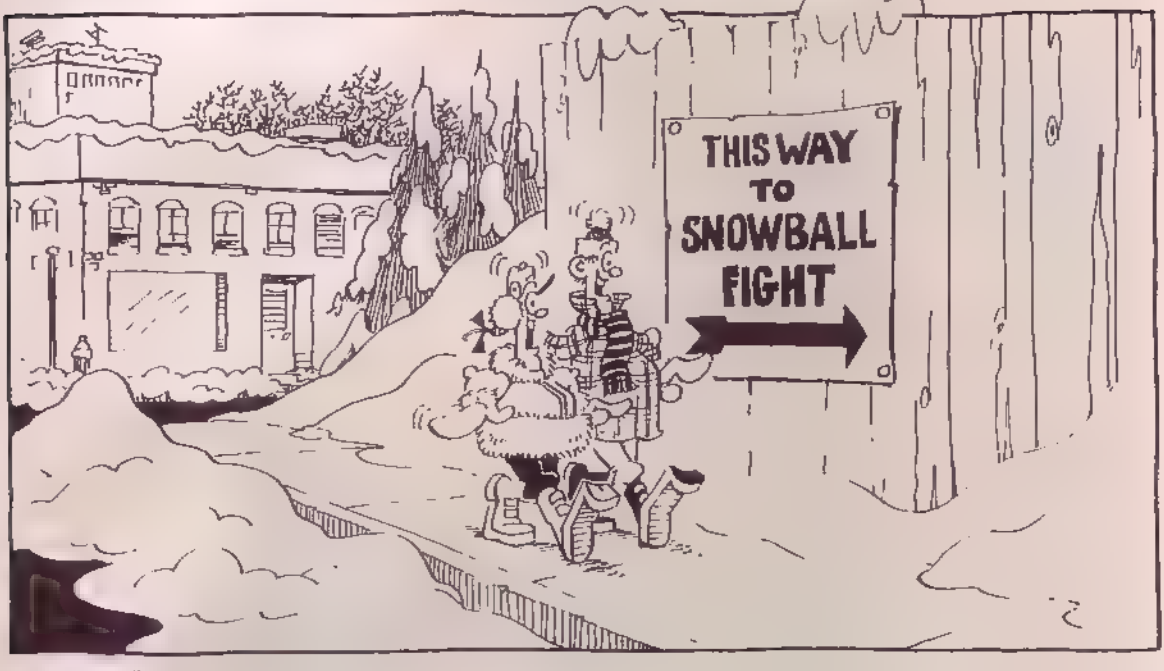


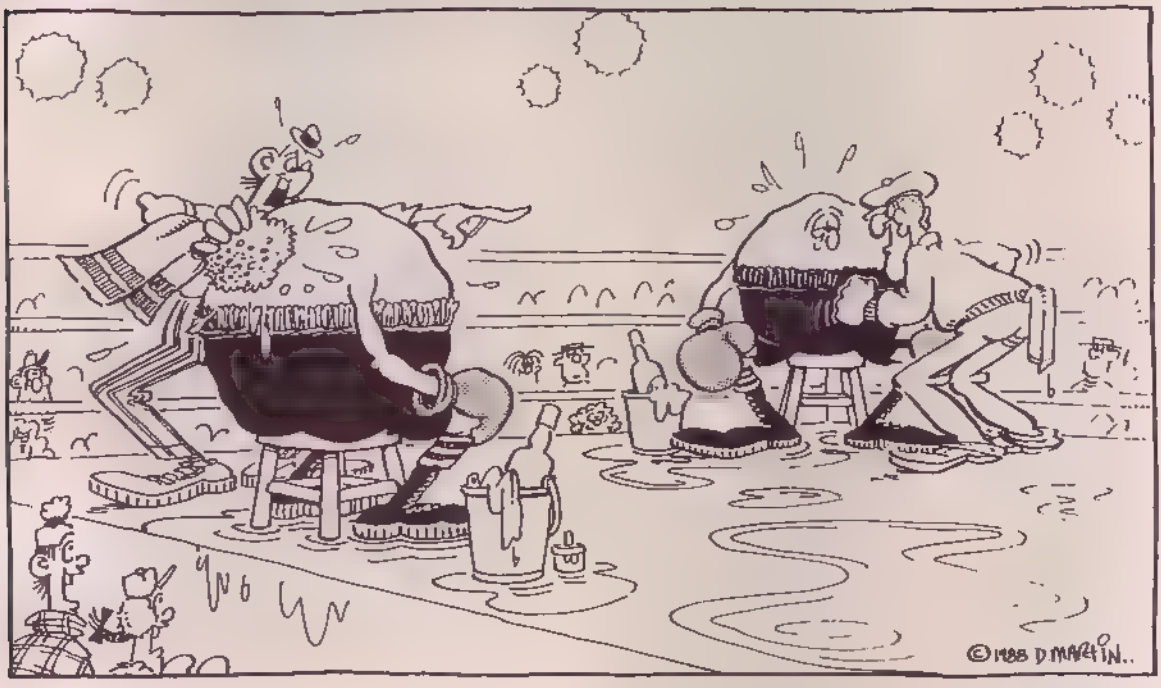
DON MARTIN'S

ONE FINE DAY WHILST WALKING

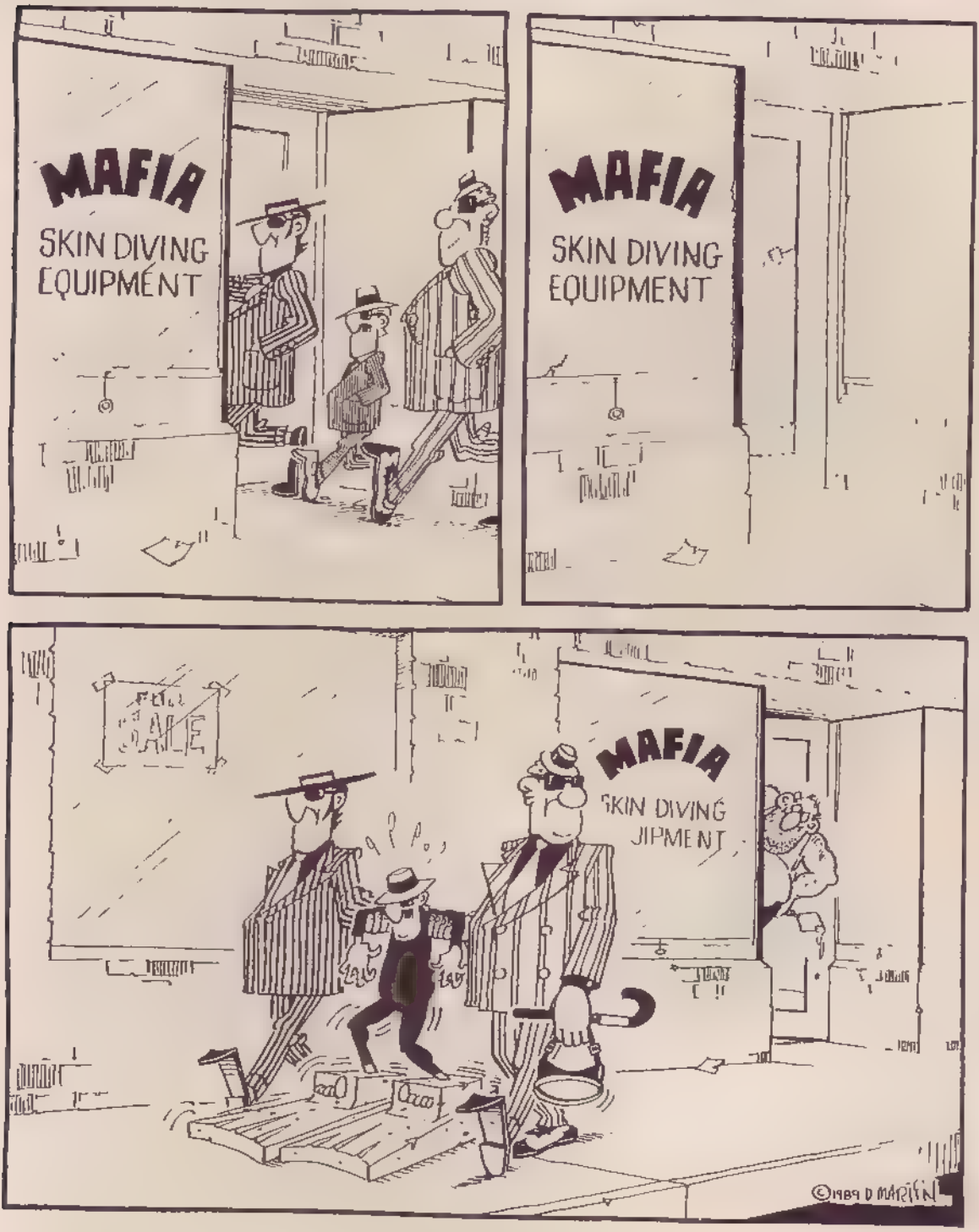
DON MARTIN'S

ONE ESPECIALLY FINE DAY THIS WINTER





DON MARTIN'S ONE SUMMER'S DAY IN BAYONNE



Making Dr. Giggles:

AN INSIDER'S LOOK

By Kris "Call My Agent" Young

We're in a quiet, upper-middle-class neighborhood. The house is a stately, two-story white colonial with well-tended gardens and a carefully manicured lawn — surrounded by barricades, semitrailers, electrical cables, power generators, bright lights, and lots of busy people with clipboards and headsets. What's going on? The making of a movie! We're on location with *Dr. Giggles*.

Dr. Giggles is something of a milestone for Dark Horse Comics. It marks the company's first venture into motion picture production. Dark Horse Entertainment, a subsidiary branch of Dark Horse, is co-producing the film with Largo Entertainment. *Dr. Giggles* is a Universal release.

Larry Drake plays Evan Rendell, the infamous "Dr. Giggles."

Filming began in late May and was completed in mid-July. The movie is scheduled for release the week before Halloween. Since the film was shot in various locations in Portland and Milwaukie, Oregon (Dark Horse territory!), we had the perfect opportunity to visit the set and interview *Dr. Giggles* producer **Stuart Besser**, writer/director **Manny Coto**, and "Dr. Giggles" himself, actor **Larry Drake**.

Stuart Besser is very familiar with Portland, having filmed the movie *Love at Large* in the city four years ago. (Other film credits include *The People Under the Stairs*, *Trouble in Mind*, *Made in Heaven*, *The Moderns*, *The Whales of August*, *Madonna — Truth or Dare*, and the pilot for *Beverly Hills 90210*.) According to Besser, Portland was selected for the *Dr. Giggles* location because of its look. "We considered sites in North Carolina, Utah, and several other states, but we felt that Portland had the best visuals. It's an easy city to shoot in, and the people are very receptive," said Besser.

Dr. Giggles is the first collaboration for Besser and writer/director Coto, and is also Coto's American debut as a director. "Manny's great to work with," said Besser. "I think one reason we get along so well is that we're both basically children. Manny searches out comic-book stores, and spends his per diem [daily expense money] on computer toys and comic books!" While Besser's childhood was spent reading classic literature by the likes of Shelley, Keats, and Kipling, he does admit to reading *Archie* comics in his teens.

Manny Coto readily acknowledges his love of comic books. A fan of Marvel comic books as a child, Coto has now graduated to Dark Horse Comics. "I used to ride my bike every Sunday to pick up my 'fix' of Marvel Comics. Now they don't have the same magic for me. Dark Horse

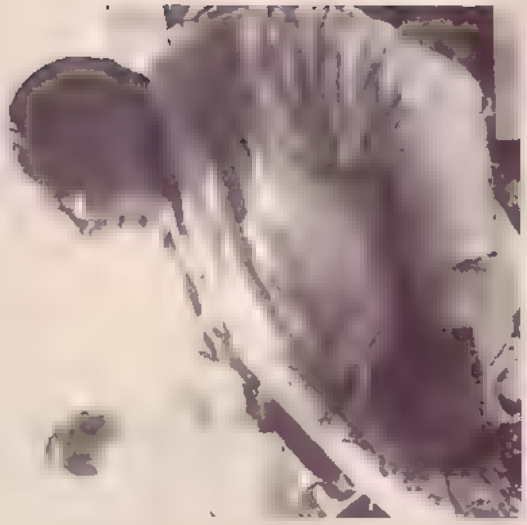
is like a breath of fresh air. It's adult, yet it's still got the wonder." Coto's favorites include *The Mask*, *Flaming Carrot*, *Concrete*, *Sin City*, and *Hard Boiled*. "That's [*Hard Boiled*] the most incredible comic book I've ever seen!" Next on Coto's must-read list is *Tank Girl*.

Coto sees the interchange between movies and comic books as a growing trend. "I've always thought that comic books are as close as you can get to movies, and movies as close as you can get to comic books. In a sense, they both feed off each other. It's very natural for them to interchange." Box-office hit films like *Superman* and *Batman*, as well as best-selling comic books such as *Aliens*, *Predator*, and *RoboCop* attest to the success of that interchange.

While *Dr. Giggles* is Coto's directorial debut in the United States, his career has already been marked by success. A short film, *Twist*, starring Tippi Hedren, won his acceptance into the prestigious director's program at the American Film Institute, where his film *Jack in the Box* earned him the Focus Award. Only two days out of A.F.I., he and a writing partner sold a screenplay for one million dollars! Coto went on to direct *Play Room* in Yugoslavia, and an action film, *Cover Up*, starring Dolph Lundgren and Lou Gosset, Jr., in Israel. Coto also directed an episode of *Tales from the Crypt*, and an episode of *Monsters*.

Dr. Giggles began as a script titled "Mr. Giggles." The film has a few elements left from the original script, but much has been changed. "Basically, we started from scratch," said Coto. "When I read the original script and was offered the project, I thought it had missed the entire joke of playing off of the clichés and medical bromides that we're all familiar with. I thought it would be fun to do something that would create an alter ego. He ["Dr. Giggles"] is like the dark side of a country doctor — a doctor gone mad — who uses all the clichés we remember, but in an evil sense. He puts a twist on them. And we've made his doctor's bag into something much more menacing. Every time he reaches in there, it's like 'What's he going to pull out next?' It's kind of bottomless. He'll be pulling things out of there five films from now!"

The story revolves around Evan Rendell, a.k.a. "Dr. Giggles," who grew up in Moorehigh, where his father was the town doctor. His father went crazy when he was unable to save



"Dr. Giggles" gets a taste of his own medicine!

Director Manny Coto (pictured right) talks about special effects makeup with artists Gino Crognale (left), and Greg Nicotero (center). The rubber dummy of Officer Magruder doesn't say anything — he has a scalpel in his throat!

The prognosis doesn't look good for Jennifer (Holly Combs), "Dr. Giggles'" favorite patient.

Holly Combs prepares for "heart surgery" under the care of (left to right) special effects artist Greg Nicotero, director Manny Coto, cinematographer Rob Draper, and special effects artist Gino Crognale.

Evan's mother, who died of heart disease. The doctor began to kill patients and take their hearts in a demented effort to "save" his dead wife. When the town found out, the doctor was killed; but Evan, who by now was also deeply disturbed, got away. Years later, he returns to Moorehigh posing as a doctor, to take revenge on the townspeople for what they did to his father. But somewhere along the way he meets Jennifer (played by Holly Combs), a young girl who suffers from the same heart disease that killed his mother, and his motivations change. Now he wants to save her — using the same grisly methods his father tried years ago!

With film credits like *Monsters*, *Tales from the Crypt*, and now *Dr. Giggles* under his belt, Coto professes a fondness for the ghoulish. "I'd be happy directing horror films for the rest of my life, as long as they can move into the bigger budgets and classier productions. I just love 'em — to death!"

The horror/thriller genre is familiar territory to *Dr. Giggles* star Larry Drake as well. Drake, who earned two Emmy Awards for his portrayal of Benny Stulwicz, the developmentally challenged mail clerk on the hit television series *L.A. Law*, also starred in Sam Raimi's *Darkman*, where he played a cold-blooded, finger-chopping villain. Did his role in *Darkman* have any bearing on his casting as "Dr. Giggles"? "I get the feeling that I was their first choice," said Drake. "I hope they called me because I'm a talented actor and physically what they had in mind, but I also think it had something to do with *Darkman* — that I was willing to play somebody that mean and nasty, and the fact that I can obviously play character extremes like Benny Stulwicz."

The characters of Benny Stulwicz and Evan Rendell ("Dr. Giggles") are completely different, and Drake's ability to portray both so effectively demonstrates the actor's range and versatility. "Benny is developmentally disabled, or 'retarded,' which is a totally separate issue from being crazy. Evan Rendell is *crazy*. This is a very difficult role to do. Not so much playing the craziness, but not playing 'typically' crazy. I think behavior determines madness. It's not a look, it's not even so much an attitude. What he does in this film is much more important than what he looks like. What he does, and his attitude about it, will reflect on his face." Drake describes the giggling behavior of the character as "somewhere between being nervous and totally pained. He giggles hysterically when he's been shot!"

Drake believes in preparing mentally for a role with research and background information as a foundation for his work. "I do a lot of homework to make myself comfortable in my ultimate decision about what goes on the screen. Between me and the director and anybody else with a good idea, we will get the appropriate thing on film." In preparing for his role as "Dr. Giggles," Drake watched various tapes, including a special called *Asylum*, and Jonathan Miller's *Madness* series on PBS. He also read a number of books about serial killers. "Serial killers are very commonplace in our society, which is a depressing fact. That's basically what Evan boils down to in a realistic, analyzed vein. He's a multiple murderer," said Drake.

Larry Drake and Manny Coto on the "carnival" set.

Drake acknowledges the dark side of the movie along with the humorous. There are scenes that are violent, brutal, and gruesome. While much of the movie is frightening, there are also moments of twisted humor that set *Dr. Giggles* apart from other horror/thriller films. "Have you ever heard the phrase 'laugh 'til you hurt'?" asked Drake. "We've taken that phrase and gone backwards in this case. You hurt 'til you laugh. I think it's a very strange and interesting combination."

While the cameras were rolling on the *Dr. Giggles* set, Dark Horse Comics creators were hard at work adapting the movie into comic-book form.

Dark Horse Comics has a reputation for successfully translating hit movies into best-selling comic books. *Aliens*, *The Terminator*, *Predator*, *The Thing from Another World*, and *Indiana Jones* are just a few prime examples.

Dark Horse executive editor **Randy Stradley** is very familiar with the challenges involved in bringing a movie to life on the comics page. He wrote the adaptation for *The Abyss*, and has edited numerous movie adaptation comic books as well. "All of the dialogue and action is there — the comics writer's job is to distill that action into freeze frames. Basically, he's turning a movie into a slide show," said Stradley. "The adaptation must translate so the readers have the illusion that the action is really taking place, even though the panels are static. Whether or not the readers know it, they are the ones who supply the crucial ingredient that makes any 'action' in comics work." According to Stradley, the trick is figuring out what to keep and what to discard from the movie script. What may take only seconds to show on the movie screen may take a page or more to communicate in a comic book.

Stradley co-edited the *Dr. Giggles* comic book with **Jennie Bricker**, and the script adaptation was in the capable hands of writer **Steven Grant**, whose other recent comic-book adaptations include *Alien*^{3} and *RoboCop 3*. Artists **Kent Burles** and **Alan J. Burrows** supplied the interior art, and the painted covers for the two-issue miniseries were furnished by **Doug Mahnke** (*The Mask*).

Because the shipping dates of the comic books were scheduled to coincide with the release date of the movie, the creative team had the additional challenge of working without the benefit of film footage for reference. Some of you eagle-eyed readers who see the movie and read the books may note minor variances in settings and other small details.

For more information on *Dr. Giggles*, the comic book, see page 5 of this issue. And look for *Dr. Giggles*, the movie, coming to a theater near you in October!

(Special thanks to Largo Entertainment and film publicist Terry Erdmann for providing photos and coordinating interviews.)

Caption Contest! Send your most creative caption for this photo to "Dr. Giggles Caption Contest," c/o Dark Horse Comics, 10956 SE Main St., Milwaukie, OR 97222. The winner will receive a signed copy of Dr. Giggles #1, and a Dark Horse Comics cloisonné pin.

VENUS WARS II #5

Matthew and Lumica are hiding out at a disreputable "love hotel" when a knock at the door awakens them. Helen MacLuth of the Terran Space Forces is on their trail! She wants to make a deal with the two fugitives — but a squad of Rado's assassins also has plans for them!

Written and illustrated by **Yoshikazu Yasuhiko**. Translation by **Alan Gleason** and **Toren Smith**. All-new cover illustration by fan favorites **Brian Stelfreeze** and **Karl Story**.

$2.25 U.S., $2.75 Canada
32 B&W pages, painted cover

Monthly. Shipping October 6, 1992.

CARAVAN KIDD #4

Swordswoman Mian Toris and her servants Babo and Wataru have wandered into a frontier town. With a prize on their heads, it's only a matter of time before the larcenous Babo tries to cash in on the reward for Mian and Wataru! As their execution approaches, it becomes clear that Babo's got to choose between cold, hard cash — or his friends! Story, art, and painted cover by **Johji Manabe**. Translation by **Dana Lewis** and **Toren Smith**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 B&W pages (no ads!), painted cover

Monthly. Shipping October 13, 1992.

DARK HORSE PRESENTS #67

Beginning in the double-sized annual issue: Part 1 of a three-part lead-in to the upcoming miniseries, *Predator: Race War*. Story by novelist **Andrew Vachss** (*Hard Looks*), adapted by **Randy Stradley** (*Aliens vs. Predator*) and artists **Jordan Raskin** and **John Beatty** (*Punisher*). Also in this issue: the tragic conclusion to "An Accidental Death," by **Ed Brubaker** and **Eric Shanower**; "The Selfish Giant" (based on the **Oscar Wilde** short story) by **P. Craig Russell**; "Money For Nothing" by **Jo Duffy** and **Maya Sakamoto**; and, from **Rich Hedden** and **Tom McWeeney**, *Roachmill*, the wacky, behind-the-scenes at Dark Horse expose', "Zoo Lou vs. Editor." Cover by **Ray Lago** (*Hellraiser*).

Suggested for mature readers. Contains strong language.

$3.95 U.S., $4.75 Canada.
64 B&W pages, squarebound, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping October 13, 1992.

CHEVAL NOIR #35

In chapter 7 of "The Man from the Ground," **Moebius**' all-new sequel to *The Airtight Garage*, the Major embarks on a quest while Batmagoo loses his shirt. Also: **Cosey**'s "In Search of Peter Pan" continues amidst ominous glacial rumblings; a nasty surprise lurks in the short story "The Birthday," by **Cossu** and **Jamsin**; and **David Lynch**'s "The Angriest Dog in the World" teaches a new dog some old tricks. Cover painting by **Rafael Kayanan**.

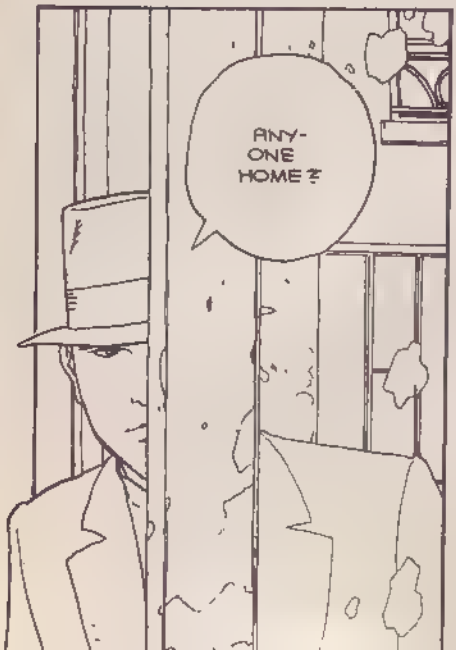
Suggested for mature readers.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada.
32 B&W pages, painted cover.

Monthly. Shipping October 13, 1992.

DHP™
DARK HORSE PRESENTS

CHEVAL noir™



DARK HORSE COMICS #3

Dark Horse Comics continues as the best new anthology on the market. This issue introduces two new features — *Aliens: Horror Show*, a new three-chapter serial written by **Sarah Byam** (*Billi 99*) with art by **David Roach** (*2000 AD*), and the first of four chapters of "Indiana Jones and the Shrine of the Sea Devil," with story and art by **Gary Gianni** (*20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Hard Looks*). *RoboCop* by **John Arcudi** (*Aliens: Genocide, The Mask*), **John Paul Leon**, and **Jeff Albrecht** (*The Terminator: Hunters and Killers*), and *Time Cop*, written by **Mark Verheiden** (*The American*) with pencils by **Wayne Losey** and inks by **Chris Warner** (*Aliens vs. Predator*) both finish their stories with a bang! *Aliens* cover by Roach.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping October 27, 1992.

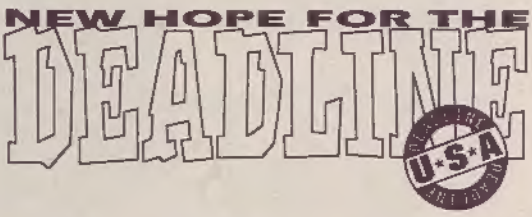
NEW HOPE FOR THE DEADLINE U.S.A. #7

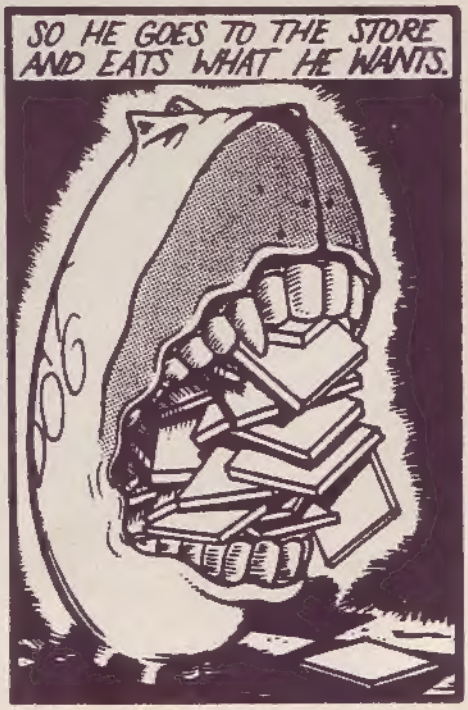
Tired of rubbing and scrubbing to get the tarnish off your intellect? Let *Deadline U.S.A.* s-t-r-e-t-c-h your imagination with its easy-to-assemble lineup of the world's leading cutting-edge cartoonists. Hang out with Liz and Pippa in **Philip Bond**'s *Wired World*. Witness the canine fury of *Fat Dog Mendoza* by **Scott Musgrove**. Share the humiliation of **Dave Cooper**'s "My Life as a Rhythmatist." Plus **D'Israeli**'s "Timulo"; **Ewins** and **Milligan**'s *Johnny Nemo*, **Shaky Kane**'s *A-Men*, and more. And at no extra charge, an alternative music feature! All this stuffed behind a mind-expanding Mendoza cover fresco by the all-wise Scott Musgrove!

Suggested for mature readers.

$3.95 U.S., $4.75 Canada.
48 B&W pages (no ads!), painted cover.

Shipping October 27, 1992.





PREDATOR 2 VINYL FIGURE KIT

Sculptor **Randy Bowen** creates another exciting figure kit for Dark Horse's continuing series. This time it's *Predator 2!* The figure is approximately 9" tall and cast in high-quality vinyl. This figure is the first of three different *Predator 2* kits with connecting bases for three times the modeling thrills! Each kit can stand alone, or with either of the other two kits. Box art by **Dave Dorman**. Dark Horse's last Predator kit sold out! Don't miss out on this one.

$39.95 U.S., $65.50 Canada.
9" vinyl figure kit (assembly and painting required), painted box cover.

Shipping in December 1992.

THE MASK™ LIMITED EDITION COLD-CAST™ FIGURE KIT

The Mask is back! This time in the form of a butt-kickin' Cold-Cast model kit, courtesy of Dark Horse Comics and sculptor **Randy Bowen**. This 9" tall figure comes complete with a battle-torn 7" x 7" base, fire hydrant, real metal assault rifle, and... a pie! The kit will be limited to only 500 sequentially numbered copies. Way cool box art by *Mask* artist **Doug Mahnke**. Kit requires assembly and painting. Instructions included.

$125.00 U.S., $171.50 Canada.
9" Cold-Cast figure kit (assembly and painting required), painted box cover.

Shipping in December 1992.

INSIDE OUT

COMING IN DECEMBER

FAT DOG MENDOZA
ART BY SCOTT MUSGROVE.

SHIPPING NOVEMBER 3

Dark Horse Presents #68
The Venus Wars II #6
Ring of Roses #1
Classic Star Wars #4
Grendel: War Child #4
The Mask Returns #3
Aliens: Genocide Collection
Sin City Collection

SHIPPING NOVEMBER 10

Cheval Noir #36
Caravan Kidd #5
Modern Classics: Freaks' Amour #3
John Byrne's Next Men #9
Nexus the Liberator #4
Kling Klang Klatch
Another Chance To Get It Right
by Andrew Vachss

SHIPPING NOVEMBER 17

The New Frontier #2
Hard Looks #5 by Andrew Vachss
Blanche Goes to New York
Stone Cold Deadline USA #8
Herbie #3
RoboCop: Prime Suspect #2
Predator vs. Magnus Robot
Fighter #2

SHIPPING NOVEMBER 24

Dark Horse Comics #4
Don Martin's Droll Book
Orion #2

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BOWMAN